

THE KINGES EDICT, FOR THE

Rebaitting of his Subiectes in the Catho-
lique, Apostolique and Romish
CHVRCHE.

Read, published, and registred in the Court of Parliament at Roan,
the 23. of Iuly, 1585.



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With Priuiledge.

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Ihones, the 27. of Iuly, 1585.

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The Edicts and Ordinances

of the French King: published at Roane,
the xxij. of Iulie. 1585.



Enrie, by the grace

of God, King of Fraunce & Polonia, to whom
these presentes, shall come, grating.

God and men do know the desire that we
hane alwaies had, and the continual paines
that we haue taken, befoze & since our coming to the Crowne,
foz to knitte in the unitie of the Catholique, Apostolique and
Romish Church, our Subjects which were seperated from the
same: and (thorowly) to purge our kingdome of Sectes and
diuersities of opinions in Religion; which hane runne and
changed themselves, in our said kingdome, during the memo-
rie of the kings our soueraigne Lords, and brothers, whome
(I trust) god will absolue: & we our selues as wel to discharge
our conscience towards God (as we are bound to do, as also foz
to establishe & set down, a good, perfect and perpetual quietnes,
among our Subjects: by meanes whereof, we might make our
raigne as happy and peaceable, as it hath ben in the dayes of
our Predecessours, the late Kings of happy memorie: foz so
much as wee haue oftentimes taken armes, and of long con-
tinuance made warres in this our said kingdome foz this on-
ly occasion, in the which we haue most willingly applyed our
owne person, and all our power, assisted by our god and faith-
full Subjects. Also in other places the Kings our saide Lords &
Brothers, and we our selues, willing to spare asuel the blood
as the substance of our Subjects, and to deliuer our people frō
oppression and rigour of warres; we haue in like manner
made many & diuers edicts of peace, to th'end we might bring
our purposes to quietnes, by al fauorable meanes. But seeing
the Lord will not suffer, that this way should be the happiest,
nevertheless it must be accomplished by force, as it is saide at
this present to be done and committed in this our kingdome,

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by selling and taking of Armes. The which hath taken beginning and foundation by the diversitie of the said Religion tolerated in the same: Whereby we also knowe and perceine, that the foresight of men in all things is weak and frayle, and yet more weak and slender, in that which toucheth or concerneth Religion, wherein at all times hath ben contrarietie and division in one estate: It hath alwaies bene subject vnto unhappinesse and desolation, according to the holie word of God. In the which desiring amendment, as a most Christian King which seeketh his owne safety, and hath the preservation of his Subjects in singular regarde. We for these causes, and other great and good considerations, have bene stirred up by the counsell of the Quene our most honourable Ladie and Mother, and of many other Princes and Loydes of our counsell, by this our present, perpetual and irrevocable Edict, and have made and ordeined these ordinances following.

First, that in this our kingdome, Countreies, Lordships, and places of our dominion, there shall not be made any more exercise of the new Religion, called pretended and reformed Religion, but onely the exercise of our Catholike, Apostolike and Romanish Religion. And therefore we doe inhibit and expressly forbid the exercise of the said pretended reformed Religion to all our Subjects, of what qualitie or degree soever they be, vpon paine of the losse and confiscation of their bodies and goods: notwithstanding, the sufferance which hath bene permitted by the Edicts of the former peace. The which peace we doe utterly reuoke by these presents, and we will and commaund vpon the penalties aforesaid, that all Ministers of the new Religion shall avoide and departe from this our Kingdome, and the Countreies of our obedience, within one moneth after the publication made, in our soueraigne Courts of Parliaments, for the better to avoide and rutte of the occasions of great troubles and calamities, that the sufferance of diuersity and opinion in Religion hath heretofore brought in this our kingdome: And for the better assurance to bring our Subjects into

into peace and tranquillitie. We doe therefore leaue them and
 ordeine vpon the penalties aforesaid, that all our said Subjects
 shalbe bounde hereafter to liue according to the Catholike, A-
 postolike, and Romish religion, and those which are of the said
 new Religion, to withdraue themselves from the same, and
 so turne vnto the said Catholike, Apostolike, and Romane re-
 ligion, and so make profession thereof within six monethes af-
 ter the publication of these presents. And in case that they will
 not make the said profession, we will and commaund them to
 auoid and depart from this our said Kingdome and Countiees
 of our obedience: in so doing, we permit and suffer them not-
 withstanding to enjoy, sell, or other wise dispose, of their goods,
 moveables, and vnmoueables, as they shall thinke good. For
 this cause and consideration, we haue also declared, and do de-
 clare by these presents, that all these our Subjects, of what qua-
 litie soeuer they be, which shalbe found to be attainted of He-
 resie, incapable to holde or exercise any common charge, office
 estate, or dignitie, in this our Kingdome and Countiees of our
 obedience, shall not beare any authoritie therein. And for to
 quench the memorie of these late troubles, and dissention of
 Religion, which hath continued amongst our Subjects, we
 haue at this present time reuoked, and do reuoke, that those
 Chambers and places which were appointed by Edic, for the
 determining of temporall causes, and matters in both religi-
 ons, by the same our Edic, and doe appoint all matters & cau-
 ses, depending in the same, of what state soeuer they be, to our
 Judges, to whom the knowledge appertaineth.

Also we will and ordeine, that the Townes which were
 heretofore giuen into the hands & custodie of those of the new
 Religion, for their better assurance, shall be freely lefte and
 yielded by, and that the garrisons now being therein shall de-
 parte thence, and be put forth of the same immediately af-
 ter the publication of these presentes, in our Courtes of Par-
 liament within the nexte and nexte sessions, to be holden, the
 said Townes are situate.

And for that some persons by occasion of these prohibitions of the exercise of the new Religion might colour and pretence to exercise particular revenges and grudges, & stirre by troubles and seditions in this our Realme. Wherefore, we most expressely and straightly forbid all our Subiectes, of what qualitie or degree soever they be, upon paine of life and death, to vse any way or mean, nor to deale in any thing one against another of their owne private authoritie, but to referre the correction & punishment thereof unto our Magistrates & Officers, for the offences committed against this our present Edict. And for asmuch as we haue knowen that which the Princes & Officers of our Crowne, Prelates, Lordes, and other Officers of Townes, and communities, & all those, which haue followed them, succeeded or assisted, or haue mingled in this newe stirrings, so much as in taking of Armes, Colours, Strong holdes, money of our generall receiptes, and particulars, or any other treasures, in what sort soever it be, victuals, metell, & taking of Ordnances, confectiō of powder, shot, and other munitions of warre, practising & arising of men of warre, ransoms, bonds of hostility, and (generally) all other things which haue bene done, in weighty affairs, within and without this our kingdome, by reason of that which is aforesaid, and haue bene for the sale & affection which they haue in the maintenance & conservation of this said Catholique, Apostolique, & Romane Religion, wee protest and declare by these presentes, that it is our will and pleasure, and we doe approue & allowe it: and wee will that they shall remaine discharged, in all and euery where, without being hereafter charged for the same, in what sort soever it be. Giving hereby perpetual silence to all our generall Attorneys, which nowe are or hereafter shall be, and to all other our Judges and Parsons whatsoever.

And if by any reason or occasion of the matters aforesaid, any iudgement hath bene giuen, wee will, and it is our minde and pleasure, that it shall remaine and bee, of none effecte, as though the same had neuer bene or happened.

And (to the ende) that the continuance of this our present Edict, maie be the better obserued and kept in euerie point,

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We will that all Princes and Pères of Pratiques, Officers of this our Crowne, counsellors in our counsell of estate, knights of our Orders, Governours, Lutenants & Generallcs of our Prouinces, high Judges & Counsellors of the Benchcs of our soveraigne Courts, and all other in auctoritie, as Palatours, Sherrifs, Heads of the Comynalties of our townes, that solemnly sweare & promise to keepe & obserue this our Edict inuolable: and that vpon their Oathes, al matters & apparant actes, shal be registred in the Records of our said Courtes, there to haue recourse vnto them when nede shall require.

Also, we charge and command, by these presentes, all our trustie and beloued subiectes, holding our Soueraigne Courts of Parliaments, chiefe Judges, high Officers of our Exchequer, and their Lieutenantes, and all other Judges and Iustices, and to euery of them, as appertaineth, that this our said present Edict & ordinance, with all pleasure, they cause to be reue, proclaimed and registred; wholly kept and obserued inuolably, and without any breach: And to accomplish, fulfill, and constrain all those to whom it shall appertaine, to be brought in: for such is our pleasure, what Edict or ordinance to what it be, or commaundement of defence, or letters contrarie this: to the which we haue speciall regarde for the obtemperance of this our said Edict, without hindering the same in any other thing, either dangerous or preiudiciall: And to shew that it may be alwayes firme and a stable thing, we haue signed these presentes with our hands, & caused our seales to be put to the same.

Given at Paris the 13. of Iuly. in the yeare of our Lord 1585. and of our reignes the twelfth.

Signed, HENRY.

And vpon the fowld,

By the King, being in his Counsell,

BAVLART.

And

And doctwile, Vile.
 And sealed vppon stringes of redde and gréne silke, with the
 great Seale of greene waxe.

And vpon the following is written
 Read, published, and registred, and requested and heard, by the
 Kings generall Attorney in the Parliament of Roan, the 23.
 of Iuly. 1583.

Signed. **DE BOISLEVESQVE.**

THE DECREE OF the Court, vppon the res-

tification and publication of this sayde
 Editte vpon the 23. of Iuly, 1583.

Vppon the Letters Pattentes in forme of Edict, for the
 mountinge of the Kinges subiectes into the lappe of the
 Catholike, Apostolike, and Romaine Church, geuen
 at Paris, in this present moneth of Iuly, after that the
 reading and publishings hath bene publickly made: And
 Vnqued in the Kinge his general Attorney beinge aduisedly
 heard vpon the same.

The Court haue ordained, and do ordaine, that vppon the
 subides of the sayd letters pattentes, shalbe set downe, that
 they haue bene read published and inregistred.

The generall Attorney required and heard, for the sayde
 Edict to be executed, obserued and kept according to his forme
 and tenor, and that the copies of this sayd present decre, shal
 be knowne and published abroade, throughout all towncs and
 market places, there to be red in lyke manner, published and
 registred: to the end, that no person may pretend any cause
 of ignorance: Done as aboue sayde.

Heckor Rowland.

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